

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 6, 2007. Claims 1-6 are presented for examination, of which Claim 1 is in independent form. Claims 1-6 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicant regards as his invention. Claims 7-17 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and will not be mentioned further. Formal changes have been made to the specification (including the title), by means of the substitute specification submitted herewith in a marked and a clean version; no new matter has been added. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,115,137 (Ozawa et al.). In addition, Claims 2 and 4-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from *Parulski* in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0161641 (Edmonds).

Claim 1 is directed to an image input apparatus which is capable of directly transmitting a digital image to an image output apparatus. The claimed apparatus comprises means for obtaining, from the image output apparatus, capability information including information related to an image outputting function of the image output apparatus, and user interface selecting means for selecting, based on the capability information obtained by the obtaining means, a user interface for controlling the image output apparatus. Also provided are display means, for displaying the user interface selected by the user interface selecting means.

For example, in the preferred embodiment, the obtaining means read on element 41 in Fig. 11 and 911 in Fig. 10, and are configured to obtain, from the image

output apparatus, capability information including information related to an image outputting function of the image output apparatus.^{1/} The user interface selecting means may read on element 34 in Fig. 11, and steps S1206, S1208, S1211, S1214 in Fig. 12. and select, based on the obtained capability information, a user interface for controlling the image output apparatus. The display means, reading on element 35 in Fig. 11, display the user interface selected by the use interface selecting means.

Among other notable features of an apparatus constructed according to Claim 1, are (1) that the claimed image input apparatus obtains, from the image output apparatus, capability information including information related to an image outputting function of an image output apparatus, and (2) that the image input apparatus selects a user interface for controlling the image output apparatus based on the obtained capability information and displays the selected user interface.

Ozawa relates to a print system in which a digital camera 10 and a printer 12 communicate with each other. Figs. 5, 11 and 12 are flowcharts explaining the process of operation of the digital camera 10. In steps S72 and S73 of Fig. 12, the digital camera 10 requests paper size information from the printer 12, and then receives the requested information. Fig. 13 shows an example of a UI window of the digital camera 10 for selecting a desired paper size to be printed. Applicant submits, however, that nothing has been found in *Ozawa* that would teach or suggest that the UI window of the digital camera 10 is changed based on the paper size information from the printer 12. Accordingly,

^{1/} It is of course to be understood that the claim scope is not limited by the details of this or any other particular embodiment that may be referred to.

Applicant believes that nothing in *Ozawa* would teach or suggest selecting a user interface based on capability information obtained from a printer, as recited in Claim 1.

For at least that reason, Applicant submits that Claim 1 is allowable over that patent.

A review of the other art of record, including *Parulski* and *Edmonds*, has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicant's opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as a reference against Claim 1. That claim is therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from Claim 1, and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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